

By the President of the United States of America.

## A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the  
"year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred  
"and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within  
"any State or designated part of a State, the people  
"whereof shall then be in rebellion against the  
"United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and  
"forever free; and the Executive Government of the  
"United States, including the military and naval  
"authority thereof, will recognize and maintain  
"the freedom of such persons, and will do no act  
"or acts to repress such persons, or any of them,  
"in any efforts they may make for their actual  
"freedom.

"That the Executive will, on the first day

### The Emancipation Proclamation

Lincoln, the "Great Emancipator," embodied a growing American abhorrence of slavery that was climaxed by the Civil War. Although a military measure, the Emancipation Proclamation, issued on January 1, 1863, freed the slaves in most of the territory in arms against the Federal Government, and foreshadowed the abolition of slavery itself. The first and signature pages of the official proclamation bearing Lincoln's signature and the seal of the United States are shown.